Laboratory Report

Studies of Sulfite Reactivity in Metabisulfite Containing Propofol Emulsions

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- 1. Sulfite radical formation in sulfite containing propofol emulsion
- 2. Genesis of propofol emulsion yellowing and oxidative processes in a simulated 12 hour intravenous drip

1. Sulfite radical formation in sulfite containing propofol emulsion

It has previously been demonstrated that propofol is oxidized to a propofol dimer in commercial metabisulfite containing propofol emulsions after the vial is opened and the emulsion exposed to air¹. This does not occur in commercial EDTA containing propofol emulsion indicating that sulfite functions to catalyze this propofol oxidation.

It has also been demonstrated that there are detectable concentrations of malondialdehyde (MDA) in commercial sulfite containing propofol emulsions when the vials are immediately analyzed for MDA after opening (Baker manuscript submitted, appendix). MDA, a marker of lipid peroxidation, is not detectable in EDTA propofol emulsion similarly analyzed. These finding point to the fact that metabisulfite (Na₂S₂O₃), which dissociates to sulfite (SO₃⁻²) in solution, is in some manner catalyzing both of these oxidative processes. Sulfite has been reported to form free radicals in the presence of oxygen, and it is hypothesized that initial sulfite oxidation to free radicals is the mechanism by which a strong oxidative environment is created in the sulfite containing propofol emulsion.

To this end, electron spin resonance (ESR) spectrometry was performed on sulfite containing propofol emulsion and EDTA containing propofol emulsion. This was done by withdrawing 500 µl emulsion from fresh unopened vials (1% propofol emulsion, Gensia Sicor Pharmaceuticals Inc, lot OOE318, exp 05/02; Diprivan, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, lot 4017F, exp 06/03), mixing the emulsion with an electron spin trapping agent (100 mM DMPO), and immediately scanning for ESR signals.

As shown in figure 1, a strong free radical signal is detected in sulfite containing propofol emulsion. In contrast, there is no radical signal in EDTA propofol emulsion identically analyzed (Figure 2). Additionally, when the emulsions are bubbled with 95% oxygen prior to analysis, no signal is detected in EDTA propofol emulsion, whereas a strong signal is otherwise observed in sulfite containing propofol emulsion.

Hyperfine splitting values for the radical signal in the sulfite containing propofol using DMPO as trap were: $a^H = 15.79$ to 16.11 G, and $a^N = 14.60$ to 14.71 G. This radical ESR spectrum is consistent with literature ESR spectra of the sulfite anion radical (SO₃)². The occurrence of this radical indicates that in the sulfite containing propofol emulsion, sulfite is readily oxidized to the sulfite free radical when air is introduced. Furthermore, it shows that radical is formed in spite of the fact that propofol, which functions as an antioxidant³ is present.

The scheme below depicts the formation of the sulfite radical upon after reaction between sulfite anion and oxygen. It is this proposed reaction of sulfite with oxygen in the sulfite propofol emulsion that is the initial step in the cascade of reactions leading to lipid and propofol oxidation.

$$SO_3^{-2} + O_2 -> SO_3^{-1} + e^{-1}$$

2. Genesis of propofol emulsion yellowing and oxidative processes in a simulated 12 hour intravenous drip of sulfite containing propofol emulsion

In addition to the occurrence of lipid peroxidation and propofol dimerization as discussed previously, sulfite containing propofol emulsion is also known to undergo a discoloration, a yellowing, upon exposure to air^{4,5}. The nature of the substance yielding the yellow color as well as the chemical reactions that bring it about are not clear. For that reason, simulated intravenous drip infusion experiments were performed and chemical changes evaluated over time in the emulsions. A total 12 hour drip time was chosen so that emulsion chemistry could be evaluated during hang times 1) that approximate those that occur with the use of the currently marketed 50 and 100 ml vials of 1% propofol emulsion (3-6 hr), and 2) those that will likely occur using larger proposed vials, ie 200 ml (6-12+ hr).

In the current study, 50 ml vials of propofol emulsion were dripped using a Flu-Vent vented spike and tubing. Emulsion drip using this system causes air to replace the dripped out emulsion and in such a manner that there is a slow bubbling of air into the emulsion from bottom to top of the liquid. Vials were hung at room temperature under ambient fluorescent lighting. At zero time, 4 ml of emulsion was dripped out and at each hour for

12 hours an additional 4 ml were dripped out and collected. This emptying rate from a 50 ml vial over 12 hr approximates the administration of 2 mg/kg/hr to a 70 kg person from a 200 ml vial of 1% propofol emulsion. The collected emulsion was analyzed for vellowing, MDA formation, and propofol dimerization.

Yellowing of propofol emulsion was determined to occur visibly in a time of 5-7 hours. Initial yellowing was very slight, but noticeable when compared to an unopened vial of sulfite propofol emulsion. The yellowed substance was readily extracted from emulsion with ethyl acetate. The extracted yellow products were chromatographed on a reverse phase HPLC column and the only absorbance detected in the visible range was a band having a maximum absorbance at 424 nm. The formation of this band over the 12 hr simulated intravenous drip continuously increased in the 6 to 12 hr period (Figure 3). Because the violet region (400-430 nm) of the visible electromagnetic spectrum is complementary to yellow, an emulsion having an absorbance band in violet range is expected to appear yellow.

Further investigation showed that the band absorbing at 424 nm chromatographed identically with an authentic compound called propofol dimer quinone (provided by AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals) which is likewise yellow in solution. A simulated 12 hr intravenous drip of the EDTA propofol emulsion did not result in yellowing of the emulsion. HPLC of the ethyl acetate extracts of EDTA propofol emulsion similarly dripped did not result in any 424 nm bands or any absorbance bands in the visible spectrum during the 12 hr period.

The ethyl acetate extracts from the dripped sulfite containing propofol emulsion were analyzed by electrospray liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC/MS). Figure 4 shows the detection of peaks having ions consistent with propofol dimer (mw = 354) and propofol dimer quinone (mw = 352). Mass spectrums of these peaks confirm the identity of these compounds as propofol dimer and propofol dimer quinone (Figures 5,6,9).

Figure 7 shows the formation of propofol dimer and propofol dimer quinone during the 12 hr drip experiment as evaluated by LC/MS. Low quantities of propofol dimer were present at time zero. Propofol dimer increased over time up to the 12 hrs. Propofol dimer quinone was not detected at time zero and initially appeared at 6 hr. It also showed a continual increase up to 12 hr. The appearance of the propofol dimer quinone correlated with the appearance of emulsion yellowing as determined by the appearance of a 424 nm band by HPLC (Figure 3). These data confirm that sulfite propofol emulsion yellowing upon air exposure is due to propofol dimer quinone.

Analysis of malondialdehyde (MDA) in the sulfite propofol emulsion shows that MDA is detectable at 8 hr in the simulated drip (figure 8). MDA, similar to the propofol dimer and propofol dimer quinone, continued to increase in quantity in the emulsion over time.

The relative intensity of the sulfite free radical signal over time in a simulated 12 hr drip as performed as described above is shown in figure 10. The signal increased from start of

the drip up to 6 hours, followed by a decline. The decline is presumably due to the decline in sulfite concentrations due to its oxidation over time exposed to air.

Discussion

These data demonstrate that under simulated clinical conditions (multi-hour iv drip), sulfite in propofol emulsions will catalyze propofol dimerization and lipid peroxidation in a progressive manner over the 12 hours evaluated. The occurrence of the propofol dimer quinone likely results from the oxidation of the propofol dimer as shown in figure 9. Evidence that propofol dimer and propofol dimer quinone redox cycle can be demonstrated by the addition of a reductant, such as dithionite, to a yellowed sulfite propofol emulsion. This causes a loss of yellow color and increase in propofol dimer formation (data not shown).

The occurrence of these oxidative processes in sulfite propofol emulsion can be attributed to the initial formation of the sulfite radical that is shown here to readily occur in the sulfite containing propofol emulsion. Its occurrence in dripped out emulsion and persistence in a hanging vial shows that it is an infused chemical species during iv drip infusions. The formation of the sulfite radical is a one electron oxidation of sulfite, as opposed to the two electron oxidation of sulfite which forms sulfate⁶. The sulfite radical has the potential to directly react with propofol and unsaturated lipids, or it may form more potent oxidant species in the presence of oxygen such as the sulfite peroxyl radical (SO₃OO⁻) or sulfate anion radical (SO₄⁻) to cause emulsion component oxidation.

The significance of MDA measurements is that it is a commonly used marker for lipid peroxidation, and in *in vivo* it is used as a measure of oxidant stress, But it is a minor lipid peroxidation product in lipid systems containing multiple unsaturated fatty acids⁸. MDA arises from the peroxidation of lipids having three or more unsaturations, and as an aldehyde is it a biologically reactive substance⁷. In soybean oil emulsions it predominantly results from linolenic acid (18:3)⁸ which constitutes 8% of the emulsion fatty acid lipid⁹. However, other unsaturated fatty acids in propofol emulsions also potentially liberate important lipid cleavage products upon peroxidation. Linoleic acid (18:2) for example, which is present in much higher concentrations (52%) than linolenic acid in propofol emulsions forms the reactive and toxic aldehyde, 4-hydroxy nonenal ^{7,10}. All the products from sulfite catalyzed lipid peroxidation in propofol emulsions need to be determined.

Summary

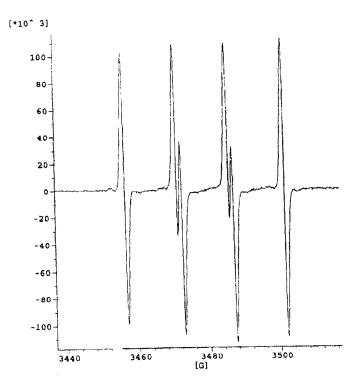
Previous work has demonstrated that sulfite under appropriate conditions can act as a prooxidant rather than as an antioxidant¹¹. The data presented here show that sulfite in commercial metabisulfite containing propofol emulsion at a concentration of 0.25 mg/ml unexpectedly creates a prooxidant environment when exposed to air.

Legends for Figures

- Figure 1. ESR spectrum of commercial metabisulfite containing propofol emulsion. Analysis was performed as described in the text.
- Figure 2. ESR spectrum of commercial EDTA containing propofol emulsion. Analysis was performed as described in the text.
- Figure 3. Yellowing of commercial metabisulfite containing propofol emulsion during a simulated 12 hr intravenous drip. One ml of emulsion was extracted with 1 ml ethyl acetate following emulsion cracking with 100μl 10% NaCl. 250 ml of extract was chromatographed on a Waters dual pump HPLC system (Baseline 810 software) equipped with a 484 Millipore absorbance detector. Propofol products were separated on a Hypersil ODS 5 μm column (150 mm x 4.6 mm id) using a solvent of 70% acetonitrile/30% H₂O at a flow rate of 1.5 ml/min. "Absorbance" represents area under the curve (AUC) of the 424 nm band. Brackets indicate approximate time of yellow visualization.
- Figure 4. LC/MS detection of parent ions of propofol dimer (5.1 min) and propofol dimer quinone (29.8 min) in ethyl acetate extracts of sulfite propofol emulsion. This sample analyzed is a 12 hr sample from the simulated 12 hr infusion. LC/MS analysis was performed on an Agilent Technologies 1100MSD using a C18 Phenosphere NEXT 3 µm column. A mobile phase of 1% formic acid in acetonitrile/water (30/70) was used.
- Figure 5. Electrospray mass spectrum of propofol dimer from the 12 hr sample (retention time 5.1 min).
- Figure 6. Electrospray mass spectrum of propofol dimer quinone from the 12 hr sample (retention time 29.8 min).
- Figure 7. Formation of propofol dimer and propofol dimer quinone in sulfite containing propofol during a simulated 12 hr infusion. Analysis was performed by electrospray LC/MS as described in legend to figure 4. Authentic propofol dimer and propofol dimer quinone were used as standards.
- Figure 8. Malondialdehyde (MDA) formation in sulfite propofol emulsion during a simulated 12 hr intravenous infusion. MDA was analyzed as described in the attached manuscript (Baker et al, Lipid peroxidation in sulfite containing propofol emulsion). Each data set represents a different 50 ml vial of sulfite containing propofol. Each data point represents the mean (±S.E.) of triplicate determinations.
- Figure 9. Structures of propofol dimer and propofol dimer quinone. Propofol dimer quinone results from the oxidation of propofol dimer.

Figure 10. Relative intensity of the ESR signal in sulfite containing propofol emulsion over time in a simulated 12 hr intravenous drip. The simulated 12 hr drip was performed as described in the text.

Figure 1



Parameter List

Operator: SM
Resonator: c:\...\tm9003.cal
Acqu. Date: 11/27/2001
of Scans: 1

Field Center Field: Sweep Width: Resolution: 3476.870 G 80.000 G 1024 points

Microwave Frequency: Power: 9.766 GHz 40.140 mW

Receiver Gain: Phase: 1.00e+005 0.00 deg 1 100.00 kHz 1.00 G Harmonic: Mod. Frequency: Mod. Amplitude:

Signal Channel
Conversion: 327.680 ms
Time Constant: 327.680 ms

Sweep time 355.445 s

Figure 2

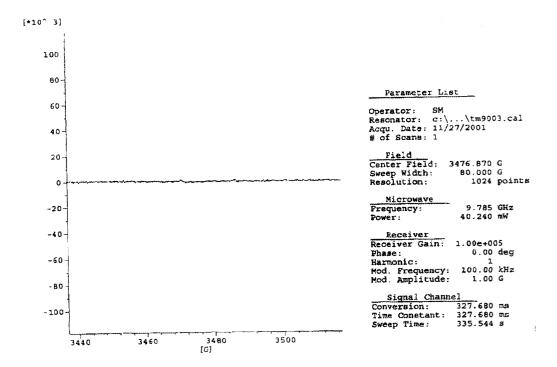


Figure 3

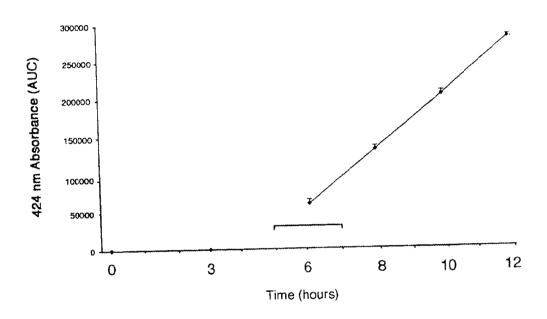


Figure 4

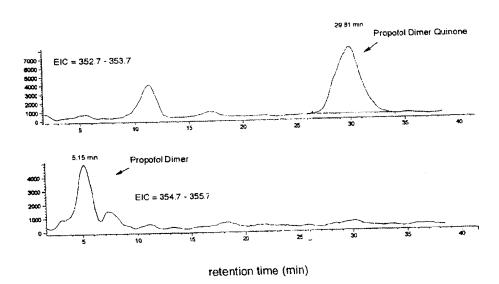
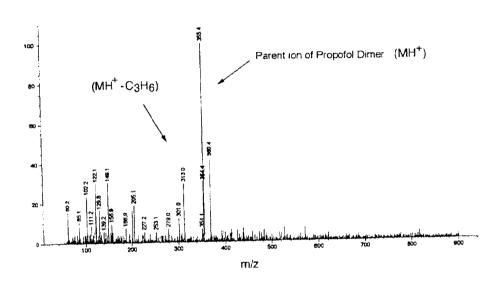


Figure 5





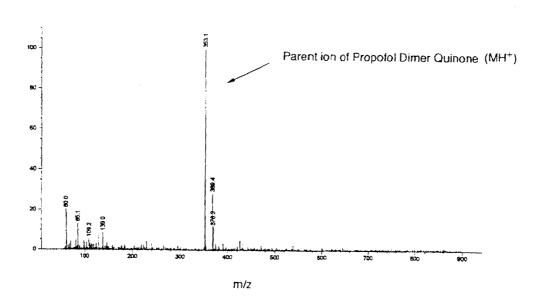
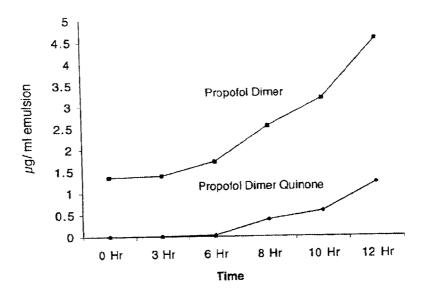


Figure 7



. Figure 8

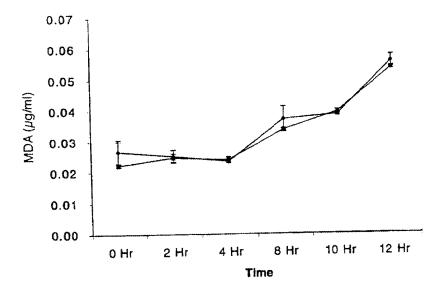


Figure 9

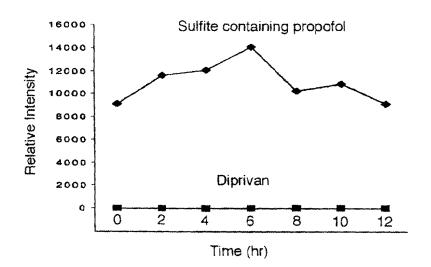
Propofol Dimer

MW = 354

Propofol Dimer Quinone

MW = 352

Figure 10



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COLLEGE OF MEDICINE CURRICULUM VITAE

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8-17-2001

EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

1975 B.S. in Biology, Georgia College, Milledgeville, GA.

1978 M.S. in Pharmacology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA. Thesis Title: Effects of Dietary thiamin on the metabolism of benzo(a)pyrene in rats hepatic microsomes. Thesis Advisor: Adelbert E. Wade, School of Pharmacy, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

1980 Ph.D. in Pharmacology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA. Thesis Title: The effects of dietary lipids on the metabolism and activation of benzo(a)pyrene by mouse hepatocytes nuclei and microsomes. Thesis Advisor: Adelbert E. Wade, Ph.D. School of Pharmacy, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

1980-1983 Research Fellow, Department of Anesthesiology Mayo Graduate School of Medicine, Rochester, MN.

| 1983-1984 | Research | Associate, | | Departme | nt of Anest | Anesthesiology, | |
|-----------|------------------------------|------------|----|-----------|-------------|-----------------|-----------|
| | Graduate | School | of | Medicine, | Rochester, | MN. | (Academic |
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- 1984-1989 Associate Research Scientist, Department of Anesthesia, University of Iowa College of Medicine, Iowa City, IA (Academic instruction in anesthesia/toxicology)
- 1989-1994 Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesia, University of Iowa College of Medicine, Iowa City, IA
- 1994-present Associate Professor (with tenure), Department of Anesthesia, University of Iowa, College of Medicine, Iowa City, IA.

SCHOLARSHIP

A Publications

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- 2 Baker, M.T. and R.A. Van Dyke: Biochemical and toxicological aspects of the volatile anesthetics. In <u>Clinical Anesthesia</u>, 2nd Edition, 1992, P.G. Barash, B.F. Cullen and R.K. Stoelting eds. J.P. Lippincott Co. Chapter 18, pp 467-480.
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- 5 **Baker M.T.** and J. A. Ruzicka. Reactions of bromine trifluoride. A review. (to be submitted to J. Fluorine Chem).

B. Abstracts (partial listing):

- 1. **Baker MT** and Wade AE: The effects of dietary thiamin on the metabolism of benzo(a)pyrene in rat hepatic microsomes. *Fed.Proc.* 37:271,1978.
- 2. **Baker MT** and Wade AE: The effects of dietary lipids on the metabolism and activation of benzo(a)pyrene by mouse hepatocyte nuclei and microsomes. *Fed.Proc.* 40:949,1980.
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- 22. **Baker MT.** Thiobarbituric acid reactive substances (malondialdehyde) in metabisulfite containing propofol emulsion. Anesthesiology (A-503, 2001)

C. Patents

- 1. **Baker**, M.T. and J.H.Tinker. Deuterated sevoflurane as an inhalational anesthetic. **US Patent** #5,391,579*, issued February 21, 1995 to the University of Iowa. (UIRF #93-26 Serial No. 08/010,264, filed Jan. 28, 1993. Claims allowed July 18, 1994).
- Tinker, J.H. and M.T.Baker. A method for the elimination of the degradation of sevoflurane and deuterated sevoflurane on soda lime.
 US Patent #5,492,111, issued February 20, 1996. (filed Jan. 28, 1993, Claims allowed June 8, 1995).
- 3. **Baker, M.T.** and J.H.Tinker. Deuterated sevoflurane as an inhalational anesthetic. **US Patent #5,789,450**, August 4, 1998
- 4. **Baker, M.T.**, J.H. Tinker and J.A. Ruzicka. Process for the synthesis of hexafluoroisopropyl ethers. (filed January 1997, claims allowed July 15, 1997). **US Patent #5,705,710***, Jan. 6, 1998
- 5. Baker, M.T. and J.A. Ruzicka, Process for the synthesis of Hexafluoropropanes. US Patent # 5,789,630, Aug. 4, 1998.
- 6. **Baker, M.T.** and J.H.Tinker. A method for the synthesis of deuterated sevoflurane. (application filed continuation of UIRF #93-26 Serial No. 08/010,264, filed Jan. 28, 1993).

7. **Baker, M.T.** Proposol emulsions containing ascorbate, assignee Astrazeneca Pharmaceuticals, Inc (applied for Sept 2001).

Active Document Disclosures:

- 1. **Baker, M.T.** Fluorinated alkyl phenol compounds and their use as medicinal agents (7-5-01, DD# 496474)
- 2. **Baker, M.T.** A method for the administration of propofol to mammals by inhalation (5-29-01, DD# 494391).
- 3. Baker, MT. A method for the andministration of propofol to mammals in subanesthetic doses (6-1-01, DD# 494588).

D. Letters

Tinker, J.H. and **Baker**, M.T. Sevoflurane, Fluoride Ion and Renal Toxicity. (Letter to the editor) *Anesthesiology* 83:232-233, 1995.

Baker, MT. Comparative propofol emulsion stabilities. *AANA Journal* 68:287, 2000.

Baker MT. Yellowing of the propofol emulsion containing sulfite Am. J. Health-System Pharmacists, 58: 1042-1044, 2001.

B. Areas of Research Interest and Current Projects

Basic Interest: <u>Drug Metabolism</u>. Anesthetic Metabolism; Mechanisms of Anesthetic Liver Toxicity; Influence of Anesthetics on Drug Metabolizing Reactions. Anesthetic synthesis. Anesthetic and fluorocarbon drug development.

Anesthetic/Fluorocarbon cytochrome P450 Interactions

 Interaction of fluorinated anesthetics, fluorinated CFC substitutes, and fluorinated ethenes (industrial monomers) with the cytochrome P450 drug metabolizing enzymes of rats, rabbits and humans.

^{*} Foreign patent applications filed.

Emphasis is on the ability of saturated fluoroalkanes and ethers to stimulate uncoupled P450 activity and cause a metabolic switching mechanism whereby saturated fluorocarbons stimulate gaseous haloethene metabolism. Emphasis is also on identification of the specific P450 isozymes in rats and humans that exhibit fluoroalkane potentiated haloethene metabolism.

• Hepatotoxicity and metabolism of fluorinated and deuterated compounds in the rat.

Emphasis is on the interactive effects of fluorocarbon ethers on liver injury by haloethenes, and correlation of interactive toxicity with fluoroalkane stimulated haloethene metabolism. Metabolic pathways and activation of 1,1-difluoroethene and trifluoroethene, and their potent P450 inactivating properties are also being investigated.

• Synthesis and development of volatile anesthetics and other fluorinated compounds.

Emphasis is on the development and testing of deuterated sevoflurane as a volatile anesthetic, and the development of chemical methods for the synthesis of the hexafluoropropyl group on several compounds including sevoflurane. In addition, we have successfully synthetized a novel fluorinated diethyl compound which exhibits anesthetic effects. We have developed a new method for the synthesis of sevoflurane related compounds including hexafluoropropane and hexafluorobutane.

 The role of deuterium isotope effect on the liver toxicity on therapeutic CNS compound valproic acid.

C. Current Projects:

- Proposol emulsion stability in the presence of bisulfite additives
 Proposol chemical degradation in formulations containing the antioxidant metabisulfite.
- Synthesis of melatonin derivatives (eg bromomelatonin) and the anesthetic properties of melatonin and its analogues (with M. Naguib).

D Grants and Contracts:

NIH (R29-GM41121-01A2) (PI Max T. Baker, 70%) Fluorinated ethene metabolism and hepatotoxicity in the rat (7/01/90 - 7/01/95).

NIH (1 T32 GM08442-01) (Program Faculty, 5%) Multidisciplinary Anesthesia Research Training Program

Contract for plasma analysis for protocol GHBA-525 Pl Max T, Baker (A phase III, multicenter, randomized, open-label study to compare the safety and tolerability of sevoflurane administered with nitrous oxide and oxygen in ASA class I, II, and III patients). Maruishi Pharmaceuticals Co., LTD. Study conducted by G.H.Besselaar Associates. Princeton, NJ. 11-91 - 11-92. (Study expanded 1/6/92)

Quality control fluoride analyses for Abbott Laboratories. Pl Max T. Baker (8-93). A multicenter phase III study of sevoflurane metabolism in surgical patients.

Processes for the synthesis of deuterated sevoflurane. PI Max T. Baker From Abbott Labs (via Tinker and Baker Labs) PI Max T. Baker (Jan 1, 1997-Dec. 31,1997).

Formulation difference tests of Diprivan and propofol with metabisulfite. PI, Max T. Baker. From Astra/Zeneca Pharmaceuticals. (Dec 1999 to Mar 2000).

Chemical Grant of Deuterated Valproic acid, September 1999, from Cambridge Isotope Chemicals.

Formulation difference tests of Diprivan and propofol with metabisulfite (renewal), PI, Max T. Baker, From AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals August 1, 2000-August 1, 2001.

A Clinical Investigation of Unknown Exhaled Substances in Patients Administered Propofol Emulsion Containing Metabisulfite, Pls Max T. Baker and Deborah Dehring. From AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals January 1, 2001-January 1, 2002.

E Invited lectures, conference presentations.

Max T. Baker. Relative stability of Diprivan and propofol with metabisulfite in the shake test. Presentation to the Diprivan advisory board, Dec. 2, 1999, Orlando, FL.

Max T. Baker. Chemistry of propofol emulsions containing metabisulfite, Diprivan Advisory Board. July 12, 2000, Washington DC.

Max T. Baker. Chemical processes in metabisulfite containing propofol emulsion. FDA seminar on emulsion chemistry. August 24, 2000, Rockville, MD.

Max T. Baker. Role of sulfite in propofol emulsion chemistry, AstraZeneca propofol Investigators meeting. San Diego, March 10, 2001.

SERVICE

Education Committee, University of Iowa Department of Anesthesia (1992-1996).

Steering Committee, University of Iowa College of Medicine Nurse Anesthetist Training Program (April 1994 to 1997)

Ph.D. Thesis Committee (April 1996): Scot Pedersen, Department of Chemistry

Chemical Safety Officer, Department of Anesthesia University of Iowa (1991-2000).

College of Medicine Research Committee, University of Iowa College of Medicine (1994-1999).

Continuing Education Committee, University of Iowa College of Medicine (1999- present).

Nurse Anesthetist Training Program Admissions Committee, University of Iowa, Departmental of Anesthesia and department of Nursing (2000-present). Peer reviewer for the Journals: Anesthesiology, Anesthesia & Analgesia, Biochemical Pharmacology, Drug Metabolism and Disposition, Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology, Toxicology.